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LAMONT WESTMORELAND
ALDERMAN, 5TH DISTRICT

Woman's death after collapse at bus stop is tragic and shows need for better response

Statement of Alderman Lamont Westmoreland January 31, 2024

I have had a chance to get information on the circumstances that led to the tragic death of Jolene Waldref last week near a bus stop in the 5th Aldermanic District at N. 76th and W. Congress.

First, I offer my sincere condolences to Ms. Waldref's family, friends, and everyone impacted by her sudden death. This incident is extremely saddening.

I have reviewed and discussed the particulars of the incident with staff of the Milwaukee Fire Department, and about how the 9-1-1 call for help led to a private ambulance company being dispatched to the scene.

I can only imagine the pain of having a loved one in this type of situation who was lost after not being located by first responders, and it saddens me greatly to even think about it.

It is obvious that there is an opportunity to improve. I have met with MFD Fire Chief Aaron Lipski and I am 100% confident that there will be SOP (standard operating procedure) updates for private ambulance companies – changes that will strengthen protocols to reduce the chance of this type of incident reoccurring.

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